

Broadcasters have a responsibility to serve the public interest. Investigative reporting is an important function that newspapers, radio stations and TV stations should be required to provide in exchange for the privilege of a broadcasting license. Yet censorship abounds in our society today. It is easier and cheaper for broadcasters to just repeat the government and/or corporate line than risk a law suit or to risk offending a big advertiser. That is why I believe broadcasters should be subject to citizen's suits when they are demonstrated to have censored a story. Their employees and reporters should have whistle-blower protections. In addition, broadcasters should be subject to steep fines when found guilty of censorship - the biggest threat to our democracy.